



USDA, National Agricultural Statistics Service

Indiana Crop & Weather Report

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CROP REPORT FOR WEEK ENDING JUNE 13

AGRICULTURAL SUMMARY

Rainfall amounts varied greatly across the state with some areas receiving heavy precipitation while others received trace amounts, according to the Indiana Field Office of USDA's National Agricultural Statistics Service. Soybean planting continued in areas where the soil was dry enough to support equipment. Many farmers were spraying herbicides and side-dressing corn as weather permitted. Winter wheat harvest has begun in some southwestern counties. Some operations are still trying to make their first cutting of hay as they have been waiting for several days in a row without rain.

FIELD CROPS REPORT

There were 3.1 **days suitable for field work**. Ninety-seven percent of the intended **corn** acreage has **emerged** compared with 86 percent last year and 94 percent for the 5-year average. Corn **condition** is rated 70 percent good to excellent compared with 66 percent last year at this time.

Eighty-eight percent of the intended **soybean** acreage has been **planted** compared with 82 percent last year and 89 percent for the 5-year average. By area, 87 percent of the soybean crop has been planted in the north, 88 percent in the central region, and 89 percent in the south.

One percent of the **winter wheat** crop has been **harvested** compared with 0 percent last year and 3 percent for the 5-year average. Winter wheat **condition** is rated 69 percent good to excellent compared with 73 percent last year at this time.

Major activities during the week included: side-dressing corn, herbicide applications, cleaning and storing planting equipment, cutting and baling hay, mowing roadsides and ditches and taking care of livestock.

LIVESTOCK, PASTURE AND RANGE REPORT

Pasture condition is rated 81 percent good to excellent compared with 79 percent last year. Livestock are in good condition with ample pasture. The **first cutting of alfalfa hay** is 76 percent complete compared with 75 percent last year and 77 percent for the 5-year average.

CROP PROGRESS

Crop	This Week	Last Week	Last Year	5-Year Avg.
Percent				
Corn Emerged	97	92	86	94
Soybeans Planted	88	81	82	89
Soybeans Emerged	79	69	63	79
Winter Wheat Harvested	1	NA	0	3
Alfalfa, First Cutting	76	64	75	77

CROP CONDITION

Crop	Very Poor	Poor	Fair	Good	Excellent
Percent					
Corn	1	7	22	52	18
Soybean	1	6	25	53	15
Pasture	0	2	17	54	27
Winter Wheat	1	4	26	55	14

SOIL MOISTURE & DAYS SUITABLE FOR FIELDWORK

Soil Moisture	This Week	Last Week	Last Year
Percent			
Topsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	3	1	1
Adequate	49	62	60
Surplus	48	37	39
Subsoil			
Very Short	0	0	0
Short	2	1	1
Adequate	62	70	69
Surplus	36	29	30
Days Suitable	3.1	3.2	3.2

CONTACT INFORMATION

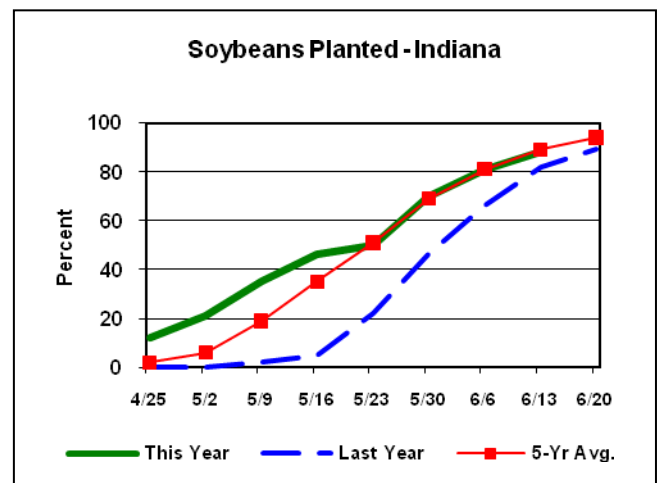
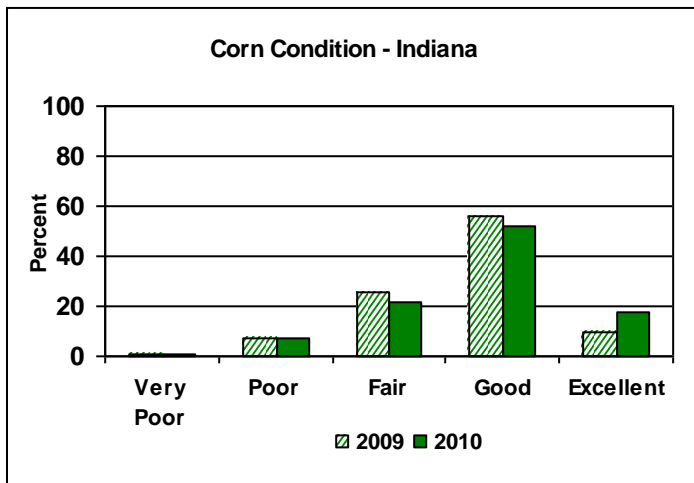
--Greg Preston, Director

--Michael Flanigan, Student Intern

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http://www.nass.usda.gov/Statistics_by_State/Indiana/

Crop Progress



Other Agricultural Comments And News

Managing Alfalfa Leaf Diseases

Written by Paul Vincelli, University of Kentucky

Invasion of alfalfa leaves by disease-causing microorganisms (pathogens) can produce dead spots and blight. Leaves with spotting or blighting are less effective at photosynthesis, which can result in reduced plant growth. Also, leaves with spot symptoms often drop to the ground, resulting in reduced forage yield and quality. Many of the leaf-infecting fungi and bacteria also infect stems of alfalfa. Stem infections can prevent water flow to the rest of the shoot, causing sudden wilting and desiccation.

Lepto leaf spot, spring black stem, Stemphylium leaf spot, and summer black stem are common alfalfa diseases that cause spotting and blighting of leaves. Anthracnose, Rhizoctonia stem canker, Sclerotinia crown and stem rot, and spring black stem cause wilting and blighting of shoots. With the exception of Sclerotinia, all alfalfa varieties are more or less susceptible to all of these foliar diseases.



Lepto leaf spot of alfalfa, an example of a leaf spot disease.

By far, the most important management practice for leaf diseases of alfalfa is to take cuttings in a timely manner. Scout fields for premature defoliation for leaf spotting, and be prepared to harvest before much defoliation occurs. If significant disease activity is present, cut sometime between early bud and first flower.

Cutting the hay accomplishes several things:

- It captures the yield from infected leaves before they defoliate.
- It reduces the buildup of infectious residue on the ground, protecting future cuttings.
- It exposes the crowns to the sun and wind, reducing the risk of crown infections from spring black stem.

Cut alfalfa when it is ready. Don't wait for a forecast of 3-4 days of sunny, dry conditions. Advancing maturity causes substantial loss in forage quality. Thus, waiting for dry weather can cost as much quality loss as can rain damage.

Sometimes copper-containing fungicides have sometimes been recommended for leaf disease control in alfalfa. I don't typically recommend these, for several reasons:

- Copper fungicides have modest disease-control activity on alfalfa, at best. This problem is compounded by the fact that sprayers often are set up for adequate spray coverage.
- An application of copper fungicide to alfalfa requires a 10-14 day pre-harvest interval. This can limit a producer's flexibility to harvest when weather conditions permit.

Weather Information Table

Week Ending Sunday, June 13, 2010

Station	Past Week Weather Summary Data							Accumulation				
	Air						Avg	April 1, 2010 through				
	Temperature			Precip.			4 in	June 13, 2010				
							Soil	Precipitation			GDD Base 50°F	
	Hi	Lo	Avg	DFN	Total	Days	Temp	Total	DFN	Days	Total	DFN
Northwest (1)												
Chalmers_5W	89	53	70	-1	2.39	5		12.41	+3.20	33	875	+123
Francesville	88	52	70	+2	0.40	4		10.70	+1.71	31	859	+190
Valparaiso_AP_I	89	52	70	+2	0.49	4		10.48	+0.85	32	856	+219
Wanatah	89	50	68	+0	0.74	4	71	10.02	+0.93	30	790	+204
Winamac	88	54	70	+2	1.77	5		11.30	+2.31	34	893	+224
North Central (2)												
Plymouth	88	52	68	-2	0.92	2		10.44	+1.00	27	808	+107
South_Bend	87	49	68	+1	0.87	3		10.07	+1.30	29	838	+222
Young_America	89	53	70	+1	3.53	5		14.13	+5.34	28	893	+223
Northeast (3)												
Fort_Wayne	90	52	71	+3	1.34	3		12.45	+4.08	34	1004	+354
Kendallville	86	50	68	+1	0.68	4		9.64	+0.92	38	794	+179
West Central (4)												
Greencastle	89	55	71	+0	1.70	3		10.51	+0.47	33	909	+98
Perrysville	91	54	74	+5	2.43	3	78	10.46	+0.73	30	1069	+336
Spencer_Ag	90	56	72	+3	1.95	4		15.07	+4.51	33	986	+253
Terre_Haute_AFB	91	55	74	+4	1.50	4		12.18	+2.31	36	1120	+316
W_Lafayette_6NW	90	53	72	+4	1.64	4	75	10.59	+1.43	27	978	+301
Central (5)												
Eagle_Creek_AP	89	59	75	+4	0.02	1		7.71	-1.46	31	1140	+346
Greenfield	88	57	72	+3	2.62	5		13.48	+3.73	35	1021	+285
Indianapolis_AP	90	58	75	+5	1.81	3		10.17	+1.00	29	1181	+387
Indianapolis_SE	88	55	71	+2	1.97	4		11.21	+1.68	30	998	+229
Tipton_Ag	89	55	71	+3	1.54	5	75	9.44	+0.26	32	932	+297
East Central (6)												
Farmland	89	51	71	+4	1.27	5	71	11.58	+2.44	38	942	+330
New_Castle	87	53	70	+2	2.93	5		13.47	+3.27	32	905	+275
Southwest (7)												
Evansville	93	62	78	+5	0.92	3		7.40	-2.94	28	1327	+335
Freelandville	92	61	75	+4	1.07	3		12.13	+1.56	30	1164	+320
Shoals_8S	92	55	72	+2	0.23	1		14.11	+2.95	23	1042	+233
Stendal	88	61	76	+4	1.56	3		10.26	-1.26	26	1347	+438
Vincennes_5NE	93	61	76	+5	1.18	4	82	11.46	+0.89	32	1194	+350
South Central (8)												
Leavenworth	91	59	75	+6	0.64	3		11.78	+0.57	37	1176	+362
Oolitic	90	56	73	+4	1.24	3	79	12.11	+1.55	34	1021	+269
Tell_City	93	61	76	+5	0.22	2		12.11	+0.72	23	1290	+364
Southeast (9)												
Brookville	89	56	71	+4	3.63	3		12.15	+2.07	31	1023	+345
Greensburg	91	57	74	+5	3.63	4		11.93	+1.46	30	1152	+412
Seymour	89	56	73	+3	1.10	3		9.45	-0.49	28	1020	+248

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DFN = Departure From Normal.

GDD = Growing Degree Days.

Precipitation (Rainfall or melted snow/ice) in inches.

Precipitation Days = Days with precip of .01 inch or more.

Air Temperatures in Degrees Fahrenheit.

For more weather information, visit www.awis.com
or call 1-888-798-9955.

Late Soybean Planting: Switch Maturity Groups?

Written by Shaun Casteel, Purdue University

Indiana soybean planting started fast with approximately 20% by the beginning of May and nearly 50% by the middle of May. Then, field work slowed as the temperatures cooled and the rainy days followed. Planting progress over the past two weeks has mirrored the 5-year average (though two of those five included very wet springs). As of June 6th, 81% of Indiana's soybean acres were planted. However, a few areas of the state have saturated fields that received rain over the past couple of days with a potential for more in the coming week. The question for these areas is: "Do we need to switch maturity groups?"

Soybeans planted at this point will probably yield ~90% of the yield of soybeans planted at a normal date. In another 10 days, this yield potential reduces to 78% of a normal yield (Table 1). The full-season varieties of soybean should still be planted until June 15th in the northern one-fourth of the Indiana, June 20th for the central one-half of Indiana, and June 25th in the southern one-fourth of Indiana. Full-season variety of soybean should be switched to mid-season variety after June 15, 20, and 25 for the northern, central, and southern regions of Indiana, respectively. In other words, decrease the maturity by one-half assuming that the variety being grown is a full-season variety for that area of the state.

Seeding rates should be increased by 15 to 20% to promote canopy closure to capture sunlight for photosynthate production, while shading out competing weeds. Additionally, the soybean-to-soybean competition will promote taller plants and subsequently the first reproductive node will be set higher to aid in harvest efficiency. Increased seeding rate will also increase the number of nodes per acre and increase the opportunity to maximize yields for the delayed planting.

Table 1. Yield Effects from Delayed Planting (Uniform Stands)

Planting Date	Yield as a % of Normal for	
	Mid-Season Variety	Full-Season Variety
May 20	100	100
May 30	96	94
June 10	92	90
June 20	82	78
June 30	70	Not Recommended
July 10	60 ¹	Not Recommended

¹In Indiana, south of Interstate 70 only.

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